

**Northeastern Maine Library District  
Annual Report  
July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008**

**NMLD DISTRICT GOALS**

1. To increase public awareness, use, and support of Maine libraries
2. To facilitate professional development
3. To encourage resource sharing and regional cooperation
4. To foster literacy
5. To improve communication among libraries, library organizations, and other groups
6. To foster improved library service

**Executive Board 2007-2008**

**Anna Carr** – Northeast Harbor Library  
**Cynthia Jennings** – Old Town Public Library  
**Jane MacDonald** – Mount Desert Island High School  
**John McManus/S** – Millinocket Memorial Library  
**Paula Maker** – Washington Academy, East Machias  
**Linda Packard/VC** – Guilford Memorial Library  
**Sonja Plummer-Morgan** – Mark & Emily Turner Memorial Library, Presque Isle  
**Marianne Thibodeau/C** - Fort Fairfield Middle/High School  
**Anna Tremblay** - Fort Fairfield Middle/High School

**Ex-Officio:**

**Valerie Osborne** – Consultant, Northeastern Maine Library District  
**Linda Lord** – Deputy State Librarian, Maine State Library  
**Barbara McDade** – Director, Bangor Public Library

The Northeastern Maine Library District serves Aroostook, Hancock, Knox, Penobscot, Piscataquis, Waldo and Washington counties. The Office is located at the Bangor Public Library. Mailing address: 145 Harlow St, Bangor ME 04401. Phone: 1-207-947-8336 or 1-800-427-8336. [www.maine.gov/msl/nmld](http://www.maine.gov/msl/nmld)

District Consultant: Valerie Osborne [valerie.osborne@bpl.lib.me.us](mailto:valerie.osborne@bpl.lib.me.us)  
Administrative Assistant: Jenny Melvin [jennym@bpl.lib.me.us](mailto:jennym@bpl.lib.me.us)

## **DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS**

### **BOOK REVIEW PROGRAM**

The N.M.L.D. offers to the district librarians the opportunity to review new children's and young adult books sent by a variety of publishers. One copy of the written review is sent to the publisher after they come back to the N.M.L.D. office. Reviewers may keep all of the books that they review for their collection. Any unwanted books are returned to the NMLD office along with the written reviews. **The district office received 854 books from publishers during 2007-2008.**

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

The Northeastern Maine Library District publishes the **Nor'easter** newsletter twice a year; in the fall and spring.

The N.M.L.D. website is being hosted on the Maine State Library server at [www.maine.gov/msl/nmld/](http://www.maine.gov/msl/nmld/). On the site you can find the Calendar of Events, NMLD member libraries, SCOOP, council, board information, pertinent bibliographies and other services for members.

The Northeastern Maine Library District now has its own **NMLD-Listserv**. NMLD-L is a list for all libraries of all types in the Northeastern Maine Library District. This is a list similar to MELIBS, but designed for the libraries in our district. To subscribe the NMLD-L mailing list, send an e-mail to [NMLD-L-Subscribe-Request@LISTS.MAINE.EDU](mailto:NMLD-L-Subscribe-Request@LISTS.MAINE.EDU).

### **DISTRICT COUNCIL MEETINGS**

The **Fall Council Meeting** was held at Jeff's Catering in Brewer on October 25, 2007. The program featured Michael Sullivan who presented "**What's In Your Library's Future?**". According to Michael Sullivan, public libraries are in trouble. Slashed budgets, librarian shortages, governmental and social pressure on library collections and policies, even the closing of many public libraries around the country. This was an excellent program that prompted librarians to think what we can all do to assure a place in the future for Public Libraries.

Sonja Plummer-Morgan and Debbie Lozito shared with the group their experience with Audio downloads and Playaways. Sonja also offered great tips and examples on successfully marketing your library.

**72** people attended the meeting.

The **Spring Council Meeting** was held at Jeff's Catering in Brewer on May 2, 2008. Michael Sullivan returned to present a full day program on "**Connecting Boys with Books**". He shared some of his practical, proven and yet sometimes offbeat suggestions on how to turn boys into life-long readers and how to make boys a presence in the library. The NMLD office provided an extensive bibliography for those interested in learning more about this topic. The bibliography, along with others, can be found on the NMLD website.

**83** people attended the meeting.

## **INQUIRIES TO THE CONSULTANTS OFFICE**

The District Consultant responded to **969** inquiries this past year. The majority of inquiries were e-mail and the rest were by telephone. Some examples of inquiries were: working with trustees/boards, automation, collection development, SCOOP, building space, construction and many more.

**162** of the inquiries received by the NMLD office were from librarians who are members of the CMLD or SMLD.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

Membership is **204**. There are 104 public libraries, 69 school systems representing 270 schools, 15 academic libraries, and 16 special libraries.

## **PROFESSIONAL COLLECTION**

The Northeastern Maine Library District professional collection holdings are **805** books, videos and periodicals; **250** of these circulated during 2007-2008. Five new books were added during this time.

The Maine State Library is now purchasing many new books related to library professional development that are available for borrowing and can be received through the van delivery or mail. For this reason, the NMLD office has reduced the number of professional books purchased during the year.

The collection consists of seven professional magazine titles including: American Libraries, BookList, Book Links, Kliatt, Library Media Connection, LibrarySparks, and VOYA. Circulation for the magazines was **95**.

The purchasing of professional materials is one of the ways the Consultant can assist the librarians and staff, stay current in what is being published, what information there is available to them, and changes in the profession. There is also a wealth of information that librarians can tap into through reading periodicals. Librarians can be added to a rotation list to receive the periodicals on a monthly basis.

The materials are in the URSUS catalog and on the Northeastern Maine Library District website. They are available for loan to any librarian in the three districts. Contact the N.M.L.D. office to borrow any of the professional titles or periodicals. They may be borrowed for 4 weeks by sending an e-mail to [valerie.osborne@bpl.lib.me.us](mailto:valerie.osborne@bpl.lib.me.us) or by calling 947-8336.

## **NMLD SURVEY RESULTS**

Last fall 91 individuals from the NMLD completed a program survey with suggested programs that they would like to see offered by the district office. The five programs below received the most votes:

1. Reader's Advisory for Teens

2. Book Clubs: How to Bring Them to Life
3. Teen Programming that Rocks
4. School and Public Libraries—How to Work as Partners & Super Librarian: How to add literacy services to your library with no time, no staff, and no money! (tied for votes)
5. Readers' Advisory—Why It is Critical to Your Library's Future

These topics will be incorporating into programming over the next couple of years.

### **EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS**

- November 1, 2007 on LiveSpace
- December 12, 2007 on LiveSpace
- February 26, 2008 on LiveSpace
- April 30, 2008 on LiveSpace

## **DISTRICT LEVEL CONTINUING EDUCATION EVENTS**

### **CLUSTER GROUP MEETINGS (attendance-172)**

- July 9, 2007, Washington County Public Librarians at Henry D. Moore Library, Steuben
- October 2, 2007, MASL I at Caribou High School
- October 5, 2007, Mid-Coast Librarians at Alice L. Pendleton Library, Islesboro
- October 9, 2007, Hancock/Washington School Librarians at Ellsworth High School
- October 18, 2007, Tri-County Librarians at Milo Free Public Library and PVHS
- October 19, 2007, Upper Penobscot Librarians at Mattanawcook Academy
- November 15, 2007, Tri-County Librarians at Borders Books, Bangor
- December 10, 2007, Washington County Public Librarians at Porter Mem. Library
- January 22, 2008, Upper Penobscot Librarians at Bangor Public Library
- February 14, 2008, Tri-County Librarians at Thompson Free Library, DF
- March 13, 2008, Tri-County Librarians at Abbott Memorial Library, Dexter
- March 27, 2008, MASL I at Caribou High School
- March 28, 2008, Aroostook County Librarians at Caribou Public Library
- May 14, 2008, All H/W County Librarians at Ellsworth Public Library
- June 27, 2008, Mid-Coast Librarians at Gibbs Library, Washington

The make up of Cluster Groups in the N.M.L.D. varies. Some are a mixture of public and school and some are only school or public. Most all of the meetings start off with "shop talk " and dedicate most of the meeting to a topic. On the other hand, some just want to present topics at the meeting and let the discussion flow. Sometimes there are outside presenters, which are often arranged by the Consultant. The librarians and staff embrace the opportunity to share ideas, have problems solved with input from the group, and plan cooperative events.

### **A.S.K. ADULTS SERVING KIDS (attendance-38)**

This is a group for anyone in school or public libraries who work with children and teens. The idea is to get together to share ideas about books and programs.

- November 8, 2007 at Bangor Public Library
- December 6, 2007 at Bangor Public Library
- January 16, 2008 at Borders Books, Bangor
- February 28, 2008 at Bangor Public Library

### **LIBRARIANS THAT LUNCH (attendance-57)**

The purpose of this group is to give librarians/library directors the opportunity to network with colleagues, discuss issues that are important to them as administrators, and to share ideas and stories.

- October 31, 2007 at Bangor Public Library
- November 28, 2007 at Bangor Public Library
- January 30, 2008 at Bangor Public Library
- February 29, 2008 at Bangor Public Library
- March 26, 2008 at Bangor Public Library
- April 30, 2008 at Bangor Public Library
- May 28, 2008 at Bangor Public Library
- June 26, 2008 at Bangor Public Library

### **WORKSHOPS**

- On September 19-20, 2007 the Northeastern Maine Library District with support from the Gates Foundation Rural Sustainability Project sponsored a two-day retreat **"A MARVELous Adventure"** at the Schoodic Education and Resource Center at Schoodic Point.

On day one Elaine Stanley, past reference librarian at the Maine State Library, gave a presentation on MARVEL. The morning session concentrated on **MARVEL: Maximizing Its Potential** and the afternoon session covered **MARVEL: Trainer, Tutor or Coach: Teaching Others What We Know**. On day two Janet McKenney, Coordinator of Learning and Technology Services at the Maine State Library, introduced librarians to **WebJunction Maine** and **LiveSpace**.

A total of **66** librarians attended the workshop.

- On October 3, 2007 the retreat **"A MARVELous Adventure"** was held in Aroostook County at the Caribou Inn and Convention Center. This was a one-day workshop, which also consisted of a MARVEL presentation by Elaine Stanly and a WebJunction Maine and LiveSpace presentation by Janet McKenney.

A total of **28** librarians attended the workshop.

The model for these workshops was used to create retreats that were held in four other locations around the state.

- The NMLD partnered with Michelle Eberle from the **National Network of Libraries of Medicine-New England** to offer distance-learning opportunities for our member libraries. This winter librarians took the online course *Beyond an Apple a Day: Providing Consumer Health Information at Your Library*. Librarians had the opportunity to improve their consumer health reference skills as well as earn 8 Medical Library Association contact hours. The class was free of charge because it is funded with your tax dollars through the National Library of Medicine, part of the National Institute of Health.

February 19-March 14, 2008 the course shell was open for individual work with two teleconferences on February 29, 2008 from 1:00-3:00 p.m. and March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2008 from 1:00-3:00 p.m.

### **15 librarians participated**

## **CONSULTANTS VISITS TO INDIVIDUAL LIBRARIES**

### **Total Visits 44**

- July 9, 2007  
Ellsworth Public Library  
Henry D. Moore Library, Steuben  
Frenchman's Bay Library, Sullivan
- July 16, 20067  
Rose M. Gaffney School, Machias  
Washington Academy  
Sturdivant Public Library, East Machias
- July 20, 2007  
Cushing Public Library
- July 30, 2007  
Pittsfield Public Library (OOD)
- August 15, 2007  
Vinalhaven Public Library
- August 24, 2007  
Brewer Public Library
- September 12, 2007  
Ellsworth Public Library  
Porter Memorial Library, Machias
- October 2, 2007  
Fort Kent Public Library  
Madawaska Public Library  
Long Lake Public Library, St. Agatha  
Caribou Public Library
- October 4, 2007  
Simpson Memorial Library, Carmel
- October 6, 2007  
Brewer Public Library
- October 17, 2007  
Cherryfield Public Library
- October 23, 2007  
Vinalhaven Public Library
- November 2, 2007  
Cushing Public Library  
Rockport Public Library
- November 6, 2007  
Southwest Harbor Public Library
- November 7, 2007  
Peabody Memorial Library, Jonesport
- November 13, 2007  
Old Town Elementary School
- December 1, 2007  
Thompson Free Library, Dover-Foxcroft
- January 25, 2008  
Lee/Winn School
- January 29, 2008  
Cherryfield Public Library  
Henry D. Moore Library, Steuben  
Frenchman's Bay Library, Sullivan  
Milbridge Public Library

- February 6, 2008 University of Maine, Machias
- February 22, 2008 Frenchman's Bay Library, Sullivan
- March 26, 2008 Northeast Harbor Public Library
- March 27, 2008 Long Lake Public Library, St. Agatha
- March 28, 2008 Caribou Pubic Library
- April 4, 2008 Pembroke Library
- May 6, 2008 Stockton Springs Community Library
- June 12, 2008 Rockport Public Library
- June 13, 2008 College of the Atlantic, Bar Harbor
- June 19, 2008 Pembroke Library
- Calais Free Library
- Thomaston Public Library
- Rockport Public Library

### **FRIENDS OF MAINE LIBRARIES**

- January 28, 2008 at Maine State Library

### **HSLIC**

- June 6, 2008 at Husson College

### **CONFERENCES**

- September 25-29, 2007 Rural and Small Libraries Conference, Columbus, OH
- October 10-12, 2007 Council of State Libraries in the North East, Concord, NH

### **NMLD COMMITTEES**

#### **Nominating**

John McManus - Millinocket Memorial Library, Linda Packard – Guilford Memorial Library, Sonja Plummer-Morgan – Mark and Emily Turner Memorial Library  
Valerie Osborne – Ex, Officio, Marianne Thibodeau – Ex-Officio

#### **Public Relations**

Diane DuBois – Caribou Public Library, Candy Emlen – Southwest Harbor Public Library, Laura England – SeDeMoCha Middle School, Mary Hinse – Mattanawcook Academy, Valerie Osborne – NMLD, Linda Packard – Guilford Memorial Library  
Valerie Osborne – Ex- Officio, Marianne Thibodeau – Ex-Officio

### **MAINE REGIONAL LIBRARY SYSTEM PROJECTS**

*The three library Districts in the Maine Regional Library System –Central, Northeastern and Southern—worked together on the following projects and programs.*

## **MRLS Membership Criteria**

Maine Regional Library System members will vote on the following criteria at spring council meetings. The criteria below were endorsed by the Maine Library Commission and are to be voted on by the NMLD Executive Board in November 2006. Current members are grandfathered until 2010.

- ❑ Be part of an organization or institution that has a legal basis for operation and provides informational resources
- ❑ Have a written mission statement and service objectives
- ❑ Have an established funding base
- ❑ Be authorized to participate by its appropriate administrative authority
- ❑ Have established and posted hours of service
- ❑ Have a fixed location
- ❑ Have a designated staff person or volunteer with library services training who is responsible for the library
- ❑ Have an organized collection of information and material accessible for use by its designated clientele and/or the public
- ❑ Agree to the terms and conditions of the Maine Regional Library System membership agreement as established by the Maine Library Commission. This agreement shall include certification by each member library that it meets the minimum eligibility requirements for participation, agrees to participate in interlibrary loan activities within the state in accordance with the National Interlibrary Loan Code for the United States and agrees to provide data on the use of regional and statewide library materials and services.

## **PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGN**

State Senate President and Freeport Library Director Beth Edmonds opened 2008 Maine Libraries Week celebration at the Hall of Flags on January 15th with a press conference. The theme of this year's event was **"Adding Value to Your Library, the Maine Regional Library System Celebrating 35 years of Cooperation."** There were displays depicting the work of the regional library system and its impact on Maine libraries. There was also a demonstration and information session on MARVEL.

The celebration is held during Maine Libraries Week, which is held the second week each January. Governor John Baldacci established Maine Libraries Week in 2004.

The three District Consultants and representatives from the three district public relations committees confer regularly via conference call to coordinate regional exhibits, publicity, special events and to discuss future plans.

## **MARVEL!**

As part of our role in the Statewide PR Committee the NMLD charge was to publicize MARVEL! resources. We developed a promotional DVD featuring Maine humorist Tim Sample and Rockport's library director, Molly Larson. The DVD is titled *The Marvels of MARVEL! Maine's Virtual Library* filmed at the Southwest Harbor Public Library by Jeff Dobbs Production. The Marvels of MARVEL! was unveiled at a Hall of Flags ceremony



during Maine Libraries Week in January. Tim Sample was on hand for the festivities hosted by the three library districts.

The DVD was distributed to all members legislature as well as various types of libraries across Maine.

This video was developed by the Maine Regional Library System through WebJunction's Rural Library Sustainability Project, funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

### **PUBLIC LIBRARY DIRECTORS' INSTITUTE AND ORIENTATION**

The 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Public Library Directors' Institute was held June 10, 2008 at the Augusta Civic Center. Keynote speaker was Cheryl Bryan, Consultant with Southeast MA Regional Library System, who presented "**The Library as Commons**". She explored the trend toward defined activity zones, allowing the space to be reconfigured to current demands and uses, reminiscent of the simplicity of the traditional Japanese house. She also looked at how we can modify traditional services and introduce new services and media formats to our communities.

Three workshops were offered on **Building Assessment** (Presenter: Cheryl Bryan, Facilitator: Shirley Helfrich, SMLD), **Creative Programming for Adults** (Presenters: Lynn Sudlow, Falmouth Memorial Library; Steve Podgajny, Portland Public Library; Candy Emlen, Southwest Harbor Public Library; Iris Eichenlaub, Rockport Public Library, Facilitator: Susan Preece, Topsham Public Library) and **Readers' Advisory** (Presentors: Molly Larson, Rockport Public Library; Maggie Frazier, Bangor Public Library; Valerie Osborne, NMLD)

**65** librarians attended the Public Library Directors' Institute.

The Special Orientation for New Library Directors was held June 9<sup>th</sup> at the Maine State Library and consisted of a library tour, lunch and presentations by staff of the Maine State Library.

**17** new library directors attended the Orientation.

### **READING ROUND-UP OF CHILDREN'S & YOUNG ADULT LITERATURE**

The 19th Annual Reading Round-Up of Children's and Young Adult Literature, sponsored by the Maine Regional Library System and the Maine Library Association's Youth Services Section, was held Thursday, April 17, 2008 at the Augusta Civic Center. Staff who work with children in public or school libraries attended.

Keynote Speaker was Dr. Pat Feehan who is a professor at the University of South Carolina. Dr. Feehan presented information about motivating alliterate readers and conducted a breakout session about reading choices for young adults.

Reading Round-Up is a statewide annual conference to learn ideas for promoting, marketing, evaluating, and purchasing noteworthy juvenile literature. Conference highlights include announcement of the Lupine, Katahdin, and Maine Student Book

Awards and a display of the "Cream of the Crop" - Outstanding new children's books compiled by a committee of children's librarians especially for RRU.

The conference sold out once again with over **330** librarians and teachers in attendance.

### **SCOOP PURCHASING COOPERATIVE**

The purpose of the Maine Regional Library System purchasing cooperative known as SCOOP, is to help member libraries purchase specified materials at the best possible price and in a timely manner. The types of items included are those typically kept in stock by traditional print, multi-media, library furniture, equipment and supply wholesalers who sell to libraries and bookstores. This purchasing cooperative does not include subscriptions or any materials that require a license.

**Six new companies** will be included in the SCOOP catalog starting July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009. Details about Adaptive Technology, BWI, Eastern Book Company, Sunrise Packaging, Inc., Weekly Reader Publishing and World Almanac Education can be found at <http://www.maine.gov/msl/libs/districts/scoop.htm>.

To cut down on costs, the agreement will only be available online instead of being distributed in print form. Libraries were mailed a password in order to access the online agreement. If a member library did not receive a password or have forgotten it, they can call the district office at 1-800-427-8336 or 947-8336.

### **SCOOP Committee 2007-2008**

#### Voting Members:

**Donna Chale**, Warsaw Middle School, Pittsfield; **Tania Erickson**, Bangor Public Library; **Debbie Lozito**, Edythe Dyer Community Library, Hampden; **Betsy Pohl**, Lithgow Public Library, Augusta; **Joy Russo**, Kennebunk High School; **Melanie Taylor Coombs**, Farmington Public Library

#### Non-voting Members:

Valerie Osborne, NMLD; Vacant Position, CMLD; Shirley Helfrich, SMLD

### **LIBRARY SPOTLIGHT**

This new statewide program will feature a different library each month on the "Spotlight" section of the Maine Libraries website [www.maine.gov/libraries/](http://www.maine.gov/libraries/). The Spotlight libraries for 2007-2008 were Bangor Public Library, Turner Memorial Library/Presque Isle, Fryeburg Public Library, Waterville High School, Farmington Public Library, Gardiner Public Library, Southwest Harbor Public Library, Wells Reserve Coastal Resource Library, Rockland Public Library and Garbrecht Law Library/Portland.

Libraries may be selected for one or more of the following: special collection or service; new or renovated building; state, regional or national award recipient; and special anniversary or event. Libraries are selected by the regional library system public relations committees.

## LIBRARY MAKEOVERS

The "Library Makeover" project begun by the Southern District in 2006 is being offered in all three Maine library districts this year. Rural public libraries in towns under 7,500 populations are eligible. Nine rural public libraries have had successful makeovers during the past two years.

A maximum of five libraries will be selected. The winning libraries will be chosen based on project feasibility and need as demonstrated by the written application and accompanying photos. Each selected library will receive a \$200.00 stipend from the Maine Regional Library System. The Makeover team includes Maine librarians, district consultants, and staff from Tucker Library Interiors, including an interior designer.

Each Makeover consists of a one-day visit by the Makeover Team whose members not only make changes to the library interior during their visit but also make suggestions for the future. The purpose of the Makeover is to make the library space more attractive and functional. Possibilities may include but not be limited to paint recommendations, furniture selection, re-arrangement of furnishings and equipment, floor coverings, and signage.

The five public libraries that were selected for makeovers in 2008 are Underwood Memorial Library in Fayette, Canaan Public Library, Pembroke Library, Zadoc Long Free Library in Buckfield and C.M. Bailey Library in Winthrop.

## TRUSTEE FORUMS

The Maine Library Trustees Association (MLTA), the District Consultants of the Maine Regional Library System, and a dedicated group of library trustees organized the Forums to revitalize MLTA, and to help make library trustees a more effective force in promoting libraries and library activities in Maine.

Topics for the forums include:

- Core Responsibilities of Boards and Directors
- Discussion of Library Case Studies
- Tim Sample & MARVEL! Maine's Virtual Library
- Explanation of WebJunction and resources for library trustees.

The NMLD attended those in bold while the others were covered by the SMLD office.

<b>Monday, May 5</b>	<b>Waterville Public Library</b>	<b>6:30-8:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Tuesday, May 6</b>	<b>Rockland Public Library</b>	<b>6:00-7:30 p.m.</b>
Thursday, May 8	Springvale Public Library	7:00-8:30 p.m.
<b>Wednesday, May 14</b>	<b>Ellsworth Public Library</b>	<b>6:30-8:00 p.m.</b>
Wednesday, May 21	Casco Public Library	7:00-8:30 p.m.

100 trustees attended the Forums.